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Senate

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JIM WEBB, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Most holy and gracious God, who turns the shadow of night into morning, satisfy our hearts with Your mercy that we may rejoice and be glad all the day. Abide with the Members of this body, permitting the light of Your countenance to calm every troubled thought, and to guide their feet in the way of peace. Perfect Your strength in their weakness and help them to serve You and country to the glory of Your Name. Lord, in a world so uncertain about many things, make our Senators sure of no light but Yours and no refuge but You. Give them courage to seek the truth and wisdom to humbly follow where it leads. We pray in the Redeemer's Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JIM WEBB led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, July 14, 2008.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JIM WEBB, a Senator

from the Commonwealth of Virginia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WEBB thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we are going to have an hour of morning business as soon as Senator MCCONNELL and I finish our opening remarks, if any.

Following morning business, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of S. 2731, the global AIDS legislation. As I announced on Friday, there will be no rollcall votes today. Senators should be permitted to vote on amendments tomorrow morning before the recess for the caucus luncheons; if not on amendments, there will be things to vote on.

This week, in addition to considering the global AIDS bill, the Senate may turn to the consideration of LIHEAP, gas prices/market manipulation, Medicare veto override, if, in fact, the President does override that veto on Medicare. We have to wait until the House acts first on that.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 3257

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I understand that S. 3257 is at the desk and due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3257) to extend immigration programs, to promote legal immigration, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. I object to any further proceedings with respect to the bill.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard. The bill will be placed on the calendar.

Mr. REID. I will come later today and give a full statement on some of the things we will try to do this week. I have other matters now, and I am unable to take care of it. But it should be a very productive week. We had a very good week last week. I would hope we can move through these amendments. We have a finite number of them. I hope people will offer their amendments and use whatever time they feel is appropriate.

I hope we can finish this bill as quickly as possible. It is an important piece of legislation. The President, Senator BIDEN, and Senator LUGAR have been waiting to move this legislation for many months. Hopefully, we can do that this week.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period of morning business for up to 1 hour, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk the call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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